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IN, PK, TS

SUBJECT:NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE NEA TRIP - APRIL-MAY 1976

- 1. NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE HAS PRESENTED DEPARTMENT WITH ITS PROPOSED ITINERARY FOR ANNUAL NEA VISIT SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 24 THROUGH MAY 8. UNLIKE PREVIOUS YEARS, NEA GROUP THIS YEAR WILL DIVIDE INTO TWO SECTIONS WITH EACH SUBGROUP PROPOSING TO VISIT FOUR COUNTRIES. GROUP PLANS TO UTILIZE MOST ECONOMICAL COMBINATION OF MILITARY AND COMMERCIAL AIR AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION, SO THAT IT MAY NOT HAVE ITS OWN MAC AIRCRAFT FOR ALL PORTIONS OF VISIT.
- 2. NWC PROPOSES THAT ONE SUBGROUP NUMBERING 17 VISIT IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA, BAHRAIN AND ABU DHABI; OTHER SUBGROUP NUMBERING 22 VISIT ISRAEL, EGYPT, JORDAN AND SYRIA. EXACT DATES OF VISIT NOT DETERMINED, BUT AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY WOULD BE ABOUT FOUR DAYS.
- 3. WE HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT SEVERAL PROPOSED LOCATIONS, INCLUDING BAHRAIN, ABU DHABI, AND DAMASCUS. BAHRAIN ALREADY FOCUS OF CONTINUING U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE. DEPARTMENT INITIAL VIEW IS THAT ABU DHABI VISIT MIGHT BE FEASIBLE, BUT WOULD LIKE EMBASSY JUDGMENT. AS ALTERANTIVE TO BAHRAIN, WE WOULD PROPOSE OMAN (BECAUSE OF INSURGENCY ISSUE) OR KUWAIT, BUT IN VIEW OF KUWAIT'S 0133, KUWAIT MAY NOT BE DESIRABLE CHOICE. WOULD LIKE BOTH EMBASSY MUSCAT AND KUWAIT COMMENT ON THIS.
- 4. DEPARTMENT ALSO FEELS THAT VISIT TO SYRIA MAY NOT BE PROPITIOUS BUT ALSO WOULD LIKE EMBASSY DAMASCUS JUDGMENT. IF SYRIA VISIT NOT FEASIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE TUNISIA AS AN ALTERNATIVE, AND WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY TUNIS JUDGMENT.
- 5. WE ARE PRESUMING THAT THERE IS NO PROBLEM FOR IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA, ISRAEL, EGYPT AND JORDAN, BUT IF THERE IS, PLEASE ADVISE.
- 6. SOUTH ASIA ADDRESSEES WILL NOTE THAT FOR FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS, NWC DOES NOT PROPOSE VISIT ANY SOUTH ASIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POST.

- 7. ADDRESSEES SHOULD BE AWARE THAT INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF THE ARMED FORCES WILL NOT CONDUCT SEPARATE OVERSEAS FIELD TRIP THIS YEAR. SOME ICAF STUDENTS MAY BE INCLUDED IN NWC GROUPS.
- 8. WOULD APPRECIATE EXPEDITIOUS RESPONSE. KISSINGER

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To: ABU DHABI MULTIPLE

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